GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4431
ANSWERED ON:21.04.2003
REVIEW OF PROJECTS FOR CHILD LABOUR
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Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have recently reviewed the implementation of special projects for child labour in various States;

(b) if so, the details of the implementation of the projects and the outcome thereof, State-wise;

(c) the details of the incidence of grave violation of law relating to employment of child labour in hazardous industries brought to the notice of the Government during the last one year, State-wise; and

(d) the details of the fresh steps proposed to effect qualitative changes in the welfare schemes aimed at improving the condition of the child labour in view of the past experience of the last two years?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL)

(a) to (d): A Statement is Annexed.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4431 FOR ANSWER ON 21.04.2003.

(a) & (b): The Government of India has been implementing two schemes for the benefit of children withdrawn from work namely the Scheme of National Child Labour Projects (NCLPs) and the Scheme of Grants-in-aid to Voluntary Organisations.

The Projects are continuously monitored through receipt of periodical reports and returns and reviews at the Centre, State and District levels. A Central Monitoring Committee, under the Chairmanship of Labour Secretary, has also been set up for the overall supervision, monitoring and evaluation of the NCLPs.The working of child labour projects was reviewed in a National Conference on Child Labour held in January 2001. Large scale Evaluation of selected NCLPs has also been taken up.Completed Evaluations have shown that the magnitude of the child labour problem can be considerably reduced through the rehabilitation measures by the projects.

(c): During the last one year, as per the information available, 88,887 inspections were carried out during which 3528 violations of the provisions of the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 were detected.

(d): The new strategy proposed to be adopted during the Tenth Plan aims at bringing about qualitative changes in the scheme for the elimination of child labour. The details are as follows:

- Policy and programmes for elimination of child labour would be continued in a more focused, integrated and convergent manner.

- The National Child Labour Projects (NCLPs) would be expanded to cover 150 child labour endemic districts.

- Child Labour efforts would be linked with the scheme of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (Education For All) of Ministry of Human Resource Development to attempt to ensure that children in the age group of 5-8 years get directly linked to schools and the older children are mainstreamed to the formal education system through the rehabilitation centres of NCLPs.

- Efforts will be made to strengthen the formal education mechanism in the child labour endemic areas in the country both in terms of quality and numbers in such a manner as to provide an attractive schooling system to the child labour force and its parents so that motivational levels of both the parents and such children are high and sending these children to school becomes an attractive proposition.

- It is also proposed to engage master vocational trainer for each NCLP for training of vocational teachers of the NCLP schools in order to lay emphasis on vocational training.

- Convergence with the ongoing schemes of the Dept. of Education, Rural Development, Health and Women & Child Development would be critical for the ultimate attainment of the objective of elimination of child labour in a time bound manner.

- A provision to attach a Medical Doctor for every 20 schools to take care of the primary health needs of the children has also been provided.

The problem of child labour requires to be dealt through sustained efforts over a period of time. Government is committed to the goal of eradication of child labour in all its forms. Considering the nature and magnitude of the problem a gradual and sequential approach has been adopted to withdraw and rehabilitate child labour beginning with the children working in hazardous occupations.